

Message Text

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ORIGIN VO-03

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TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

UNCLAS STATE 186703

VISAS

E.O. 11652' N/A

TAGS: CVIS, ETRD

SUBJECT: VALIDITY OF JAPANESE PASSPORTS

REF: TOKYO 10629

1. QUESTIONS RAISED BY REFTEL ESSENTIALLY CONSULAR, SPECIFICALLY VISA MATTERS. DEPARTMENT THEREFORE HOPES THAT FACT THAT REFTEL SENT THROUGH USDOC CHANNELS DOES NOT RPT NOT MEAN THAT CONTENTS WERE NOT CLEARED WITH CONSULAR SECTION.

2. AS CONSULAR SECTION DOUBTLESS AWARE, OUR VISA REGULATIONS SPECIFICALLY PROVIDE FOR SITUATIONS DISCUSSED IN REFTEL. PER 22 CFR 41.112, NOTE 1.1, VISAS MAY BE ISSUED FOR ENTIRE VALIDITY OF PASSPORT TO NATIONALS OF COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE CONCLUDED AN AGREEMENT WITH USG WHEREBY THEIR PASSPORTS WILL BE RECOGNIZED AS VALID FOR RETURN OF BEARER TO ISSUING COUNTRY FOR A PERIOD

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SIX MONTHS BEYOND PASSPORT'S EXPIRY DATE.

3. DEPARTMENT NOTES THAT JAPAN IS NOT ON THE LIST OF COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE CONCLUDED SUCH AGREEMENTS WITH US. IF IT HAS NOT ALREADY DONE SO, THEREFORE, EMBASSY SHOULD INITIATE DISCUSSION WITH GOJ TOWARD CONCLUSION OF SUCH

AGREEMENT. IF SUCH AGREEMENT IS CONCLUDED, COPIES OF EXCHANGE OF NOTES BETWEEN EMBASSY AND FONMIN FORMALIZING AGREEMENT SHOULD BE FORWARDED TO DEPARTMENT (VO). KISSINGER

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